



**Eddie A. Perez**  
**Mayor**

## **RETIREE INSURANCE IMPLEMENTATION PLAN**

### **---NEWS RELEASE---**

(August 15, 2008)--- As a moratorium on changes to the retiree insurance premiums winds down, Mayor Eddie A. Perez announced today that the City of Hartford is prepared to implement the new insurance rates for municipal retirees. The Board of Education will separately contact its non-certified retirees with new information on rates.

Moving forward, the vast majority of city retirees are receiving moderate increases that are less than previously proposed, as a result of pooling the retirees and active employees. The new rates will be in place in September 2008 for October 2008 coverage.

Letters are being sent out to retirees so that they can make their elections over a three-week period ending September 5<sup>th</sup>. Implementation of the rate changes, cancellations, etc. would take place from September 8<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup>. Again, the new rates will be effective for October 2008 coverage.

Initial estimates of the cost to the city of the moratorium on implementing new insurance rates are about \$600,000 in revenue that must be made up in the FY '08-'09 budget. The city is looking at areas to reduce spending to make up the revenue shortfall.

Mayor Perez says, "The new rates that are being implemented are fair to the retirees and the taxpayers of the city. I want to applaud the Human Resources Department for taking over this project and quickly and effectively reorganizing the way we provided retiree health insurance benefits. Our residents and retirees will be pleased with the results."